

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01468 251050Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----251053Z 036269 /16

O 251026Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5730

INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1468

EXDIS

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR RH US UK

SUBJ: CONSULTATIVE GROUP: COMMENTS

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 2121

1. I HAVE NOTED AMBASSADOR SPAIN'S CONCERN ON US INVOLVEMENT
IN CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS. IN ALL THE MEETINGS I HAVE ATTENDED,
I HAVE MADE QUITE CLEAR THAT OUR PARTICIPATION IS CONFINED TO
FACILITATE AGREEMENT ON BROAD PRINCIPLES AND THAT WE DO NOT
INTEND TO BECOME INVOLVED IN DETAILED DISCUSSIONS OF CONSTITUTIONAL
NATURE. INEVITABLY, OF COURSE, SOME OF THE DISCUSSIONS TURNED
TO THAT, AS WAS THE CASE WITH THE MUZOREWA MEETING. HOWEVER, FOR
THE TIME BEING THE DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEEN CONFINED TO THE BROAD
PRINCIPLES OF FRANCHISE, CIVIL RIGHTS, ETC., IN WHICH WE DO
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HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY. IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT THE NEXT ROUND OF
DISCUSSIONS FOLLOWING GRAHAM'S RETURN TO LONDON WOULD BE OF A
TECHNICAL NATURE WHICH WE MAY WANT TO CONSIDER LEAVING TO THE
BRITISH. IN ANY CASE, BOTH GRAHAM AND I FULLY AGREE AND HAVE
TAKEN THE LINE THAT THE U.S. DOES NOT INTEND TO BECOME
INVOLVED IN TECHNICAL CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS.

2. I AM SURPRISED AT BROWN'S COMMENT THAT OWEN HAS DECIDED
THERE IS NOT TO BE A CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE, AS SUCH.
I HAD NOT UNDERSTOOD THIS TO BE THE CASE AND DID NOT THINK
THIS WAS GRAHAM'S VIEW. A CONFERENCE IS A MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED
AT A LATER DATE AND AS FAR AS I AM AWARE IT HAVE NEITHER BEEN
RULED IN NOR OUT.
LOW

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Message Attributes

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